

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGR-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10

LAB-01 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 SWF-01

CIEP-01 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-02 SS-14 NSC-07 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-04 DRC-01 /066 W

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P 072110Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8694

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, HA

SUBJ: HAITI/US TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: PAUP 1942

1. HAVE RECEIVED LETTER FROM COMMERCE SECRETARY FOURCAND IN WHICH HE REQUESTS CERTAIN ASSURANCES FROM USG PRIOR TO SIGNING THE TEXTILE AGREEMENT. THE ASSURANCES RELATE TO (A) SIMILAR AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH OTHER LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND (B) FAIR TREATMENT OF HAITI WITH RESPECT TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

2. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS (EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION):

3. QUOTE I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING INITIALED BY MR. ANTHONY JURICH AND MYSELF.

4. QUOTE I TAKE PLEASURE IN NOTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS PROPOSED FOR 1975 THE AMOUNT OF 52 MILLION SQUARE YARDS WHICH I CONSIDER THE MINIMUM AMOUNT TO ASSIGN TO THE COMPANIES WORKING IN THE TEPTILE FIELD IN HAITI.

5. QUOTE IN ADDITION, I TAKE PLEASURE IN NOTING THE UNDERSTANDING
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ATTITUDE SHOWN BY MINISTER JURICH WHEN, BEFORE INITIALING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, I EXPRESSED TO HIM MY RESERVATIONS

WITH REGARD TO THE SPECIFIC LIMITS AND LEVELS OF CONSULTATION WHICH HIS DELEGATION HAD HOPED TO HAVE INCLUDED IN THE TEXT OF A FORMAL AGREEMENT SOON TO BE ENTERED INTO BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

6. QUOTE IN ANY CASE IT REMAINS EVIDENT THAT, WITH DUE RESPECT FOR THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE "ARRANGEMENT CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE IN TEXTILES", NEITHER THIS MINISTRY NOR THE EMBASSY OF HAITI IN WASHINGTON COULD UNDERTAKE ANY DEFINITIVE COMMITMENT BEFORE THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ASSURED OF THE FOLLOWING:

(I) THAT ALL COUNTRIES WHICH ARE OR COULD BE ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL COMPETITORS OF HAITI AND WHICH HAVE ATTAINED A LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT SUPERIOR TO OURS HAVE ALREADY SIGNED SIMILAR AGREEMENTS;

(II) THAT THE AGREEMENTS MENTIONED ABOVE DO NOT PLACE HAITI IN AN UNFAVORABLE POSITION VIS-A-VIS A THIRD COUNTRY.

7. QUOTE FURTHERMORE, AS I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF EXPRESSING TO MINISTER JURICH IN A MEMORANDUM WHICH I SENT TO HIM PERSONALLY, THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO APPEAL TO THE GATT AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, TO THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE COMMITTEE IF, BECAUSE OF A UNILATERAL DECISION, ANY RESTRICTION IS APPLIED TO OUR EXPORTS OF TEXTILES TOWARD THE AMERICAN MARKET.

8. QUOTE INDEED, IF THE LIMITATIONS ON OUR SALES OF COTTON ARTICLES HAVE BEEN LIFTED BECAUSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, WE CONSIDER OURSELVES, UNTIL THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF A FORMAL AGREEMENT, TO BE UNDER A TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT WHOSE LIBERALISM IS ONLY THE DIRECT AND PRECISE REFLECTION OF THE MULTILATERAL COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN MATTERS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) UNQUOTE

9. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE SPECIFIC ASSURANCES I CAN SEND FOURCAND PROMPTLY IN ORDER TO AVERT DELAY IN GOH SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: TEXTILES, COMMODITY AGREEMENTS
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Draft Date: 07 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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